S-3144.0102. Approved For Release 1999/09/24: CIA-RDP82-00457R000800150008-3 CECREA CONTROL OFFICIALS ONLY CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP 25X1A INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Syria/U.S./U.S.S.R.

CONFIDENTIALATE:

SUBJECT

Soviet Concern Over_U.S.

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Popularity in Syria

This document is hereby regraded to

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ORIGIN

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SUPPLEMENT SO-5600

Isaac Isagolov, Soviet Charge d'Affaires in Damascus, is believed to have sent a report to the Soviet Legation in Beirut, in which he emphasized the following points:

- a. Widespread activity in behalf of the Greater Syria plan has led to a war of nerves in Syria which, in turn, has given the leading foreign powers represented there an opportunity to exert their influence.
- b. Up to the present, the only power that has gained in popularity is the United States. Its officials have impressed the Syrian Government with their readiness to help in the hour of need.
- c. Similar measures should be adopted by the Soviet Union in order to counteract American prestige. The Soviet Minister (Daniel Solod) ought to consider a trip to Damascus to assure the authorities there of the U.S.S.R. s willingness to maintain the independence (status quo) of Syria.
- 2. Solod has evidently approved this report in a special communication to Moscow. He stressed the fact that the situation in the Jebel Druze is not normal, and that the disorder has been fomented by the British, who have continued to back King Abdallah.

Document No.

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